

2-15-2008

The Hobbit

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"The Hobbit" (2008). *Taylor Theatre Playbills*. 126.
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Taylor University

Journal



2007-2008

the HOBBIT



BOOK BY J. R. R. TOLKIEN | ADAPTATION BY PATRICIA GRAY | THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY MITCHELL THEATER

FEB. 15, 16, 22, 23, AT 8:00 P.M. | FEB. 24 AT 3:00 P.M.

**DIRECTED BY
TRACY MANNING**

**ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
JOSH ZEHNDER**

**STAGE MANAGER
LINDSAY SNIDER**

FROM THE DIRECTOR



TRACY MANNING

While many have come to know J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle Earth from the big screen epic that rocked box offices, I came to know it on the page. I think it was 5th grade when our teacher gave us the assignment, "Read 'The Hobbit'". I liked it instantly. Years passed full of other authors until 1999 when I directed a production of "Shadowlands". Many of you know the play and the movie that tells the story of Clive Staples Lewis and his surprise love Joy Davidson. In my research for that production I again came across J.R.R. Tolkien, and reread "The Hobbit". I liked it instantly.

I'm sure many of you are much more familiar with the intricacies of the Inklings and the stories they told. While not a scholar of such things, I look at it with somewhat envious eyes. I find myself delighted and challenged by what their minds and relationships produced. I am so thankful they wrote some of it down.

Many book clubs, I'm sure, talk of the journey, and all that journeys teach us about ourselves and about each other. Some may focus on greed and the things Thorin teaches us in those last moments of his life. You could probably spend hours dissecting the meaning behind Gandalf's and Bilbo's closing conversation, one of my favorite passages in the book. All true and valuable lessons in "The Hobbit". But for me, I love the awakening. The pleasure and assurance I see in Bilbo's waking to those things in him he didn't know were there. A side of him that for many reasons, probably, he had "put away", ignored, dead places...

Gandalf wanted a full and complete life for Bilbo. He knew that through the circumstances of Bilbo's life and a little bit of direction, Bilbo could be fully alive. I liked that instantly.

This cast and crew has been a tremendous pleasure to me in this effort. They love this story. Many have read it more than I have. They know Middle Earth almost as well as their hometowns.

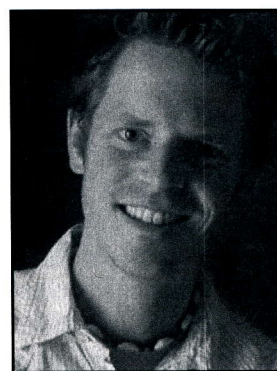
The cast and crew to whom I threw new challenges were brave and committed to the work; I could not have done it without them. I thank Lindsey Snider and Josh Zehnder for their willingness to come along side me and work toward the vision. Oh, where oh where would I be...

So much of what you will see tonight is in large part credited to the creative work of Cory Rodeheaver. Thank you Cory.

Thank you Michael, Tobey, Eleana and Rachel...I love you more than life.

Pretend you're in fifth grade again, and enjoy the show.

THE DESIGNERS



CORY RODEHEAVER - SCENIC DESIGNER

Cory has been working as a freelance scenic designer for the past 8 years and is no stranger to Taylor Theatre. He has been involved with Taylor theatre for the past 13 years. Most recently, he served as an assistant professor of theatre at Taylor and designed *A Man for All Seasons*, *Night Watch*, and *The Chalk Garden* last season. Outside of Taylor, Cory has designed for the Summer Studio Theatre Company at the University of Illinois, the Feltre Library Theatre in Chicago, and the University of Illinois Theatre department to name a few.

Some other productions to his credit are: *La Traviata*, *Aloha Say the Pretty Girls*, Tennessee Williams' *Spring Storm*, *Peter Pan*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Tally's Folley*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Urine Town the Musical*, *Into the Woods* and staged readings of *Ghosts* and *Desire Under the Elms*. Currently Cory is working as a full time exhibit designer for Taylor Studios Inc. in Rantoul, Illinois, and lives with his wife, Jennifer and son, Ethan in Champaign, IL. Cory holds a MFA in Scenic Design from the University of Illinois Urbana/Champaign.



KEVIN GAWLEY - LIGHTING DESIGNER

Kevin is returning to design his fourth production at Taylor after designing lights for *The Chalk Garden* last year. As a freelance lighting/scenic designer, Kevin's work has appeared on many Chicago stages, including Lifeline Theatre where he won the Jeff Citation for his design of *Jane Eyre*, the After Dark Award for his design of *Strong Poison*, and has been an ensemble member and resident designer since 2001.

His work also appeared in numerous productions at the Bailiwick, Organic, Porchlight, OperaModa, Blindfaith, Theatre on the Lake, Metropolis, StoreFront, Loyola University Chicago, Revels Chicago, Midwest Jewish and at the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival theatres. Kevin is currently the Lighting and Scenic Design professor at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire and has previously taught courses at Loyola University Chicago and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is also a resident designer at St. Scholastica Academy. Kevin holds an MFA and BFA in Lighting Design from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an MBA in Finance from DePaul University. Kevin's lighting/projection designs can be seen this summer at Lifeline Theatre's productions of *Crossing California* and *Gaudy Night*.

THE ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR



JOSH ZEHNDER

The Hobbit is a children's fantasy story. There are goblins, elves, dwarves, and magical powers. It is a story that is meant to excite and entice. As adults, even as college students just beginning our journey of adulthood, we often lose sight of the joys and the magic that we experienced as children. Our life journey becomes something that we must simply get through and hope that we are not too ragged and disheveled at the end.

Yet, every moment we experience in this life is something that can, if we allow it, grow, mold, and shape us toward the person God desires us to become. As you are carried along on Bilbo's journey tonight, my hope is that you are caught up in the joy and excitement that Bilbo experiences. And yet, my even greater hope is that you would, at the end of the play, recognize a Bilbo that is starkly different from the Bilbo you first encounter. As you leave the theatre tonight, may you have a greater sense of your own journey, and, as Bilbo realizes, may you also realize how far you have come, and where you are headed. Accept the challenge of the journey, and enjoy the reward of allowing God to mold, shape, and change you along the way.

THE HOBBIT

TIME: Long ago in the quiet of the world

PLACE: Middle Earth

From Underhill, through the Wilderland,
to the Lonely Mountain

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE
FOLLOWING FOR HELPING TO MAKE THIS
PRODUCTION POSSIBLE:

DR. DAVID NEUHOUSER AND THE C.S. LEWIS AND FRIENDS
SOCIETY FOR THEIR HELP AND CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH AND
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
AND TO DR. PATRICIA ROBERTSON

THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND STAGE MANAGERS



DAVID PHILLIPS - TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

David is ecstatic to be returning to the Taylor stage in this position. He is a January 2007 graduate from Taylor with a degree in theatre. He is also on staff as a Media Services Technician. Originally from Fort Wayne, he also designs productions for Leo High School, and has done design work and is a technical theatre teacher for drama camp at Concordia High School. In the future, he plans on continued education in directing and hopes to teach theatre. He also enjoys directing, cooking, landscaping, and causing trouble with the crew and friends.



LINDSAY SNIDER - STAGE MANAGER

Lindsay is a junior theatre arts and English literature major from Grand Rapids, Michigan. She has had roles in or been involved with *Flowers for Algernon*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Chalk Garden*, *Voices Unheard* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Lindsay is also the stage manager for and member of the cast in the Taylor Theatre Touring Company's production of *John, His Story*.



AMANDA HUDSON - ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Amanda is from Cincinnati, Ohio, and is a sophomore Christian education major. She is minoring in missions and is working toward a TESOL certificate. She was involved in theatre in high school and was an assistant stage manager for Taylor's production of *The Chalk Garden*.



KELLY BARROW - ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Kelly Barrow is a junior elementary education major from Silver Spring, Maryland, outside Washington D.C. She was very involved with stage crew in high school. She has been an usher in every theatre production since starting school at Taylor last year and is now the Assistant House Manager. Kelly worked backstage for *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and is glad for the opportunity to be a part of *The Hobbit's* Stage Management Team.

the HOBBIT

THE CAST - IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

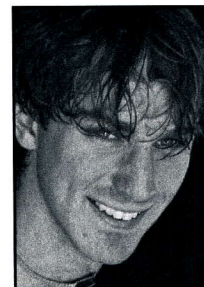
Erik Hatcher.....	Bilbo Baggins
*Thomas Nicol.....	Gandalf
Brent Fannin.....	Dwalin
Elizabeth Owsley.....	Balin
Stefan Wessman.....	Kili
Andy Trozan.....	Fili
Rachel Woods.....	Dori
Ryan Duncan.....	Nori
Lydia Kilmer.....	Ori
Emily Reel.....	Oin
Stephen Hensel.....	Gloin
Abigail Wolff.....	Bifur
Brian Farnsley.....	Bofur
Ryan McKalip.....	Bombur
Andrew Goedicke.....	Thorin
Amanda Trumbower.....	Grocery Boy/Attendant Goblin
Jared Sorensen.....	Bert/Smaug
Ben Anderson.....	Tom/Elven Guard
*Kathy St. Cyr.....	Essie/Elven Guard
Ruth Keller.....	The Great Goblin
Jonathan Friday.....	Gollum
*Kelsey Dufendach.....	Elven Queen
Kaitlyn Millner.....	Elven Attendant
Melanie Boronow.....	Elven Attendant
Tree Puppeteers.....	Thomas Nicol Ruth Keller Amanda Trumbower Jonathan Friday Jared Sorensen Jason Griffin
Smaug Puppeteers.....	Amanda Trumbower David Pomeroy Jonathan Friday Ruth Keller Jared Sorensen
Dr. Steve Bedi.....	Narrator

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ERIK HATCHER - **BILBO BAGGINS**

Erik is a junior developmental economics major from Vienna, Austria. His vocational plans are to "save the world." He has appeared in several plays and musicals including *As You Like It*, *Bye, Bye, Birdie*, *Godspell*, *Robinhood*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Night Watch* and *Bang Bang You're Dead*.



THOMAS NICOL - **GANDALF**

Thomas is a junior computer engineering major from Urbana, Illinois, and has been in several Taylor plays including *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *Flowers for Algernon*, and *Little Women*. On campus, he's involved in the ETC Special Projects Group multimedia services and as a computer science TA. Thomas' favorite pastimes include making movies, sword based martial arts, electronic tinkering, and "commanding the power of computers with the seductive whispers of C++."



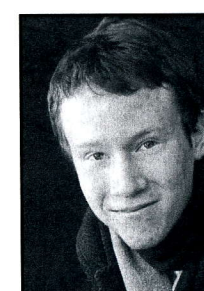
BRENT FANNIN - **DWALIN**

A sophomore media communication-film emphasis major from Rapid City, South Dakota, Brent plans to become a movie director after graduating Taylor. His campus activities include intramurals, My Generation Night, Airband, Battle of the Bands, and Karaoke Night at the Union. Brent loves anything involving music and singing, playing sports, especially soccer, playing video games, and collecting science fiction and action movies.



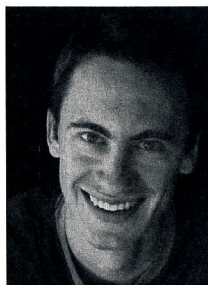
ELIZABETH OWSLEY - **BALIN**

Junior, Elizabeth Owsley, is an elementary education major from Kansas City, Missouri. She was last seen in *The Chalk Garden*. Elizabeth enjoys juggling, sculpting, long walks in fall weather and logically thinking through spontaneous activities.



STEFAN WESSMAN - **KILI**

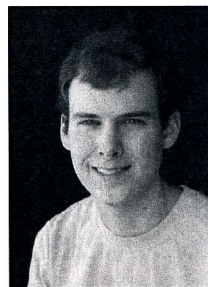
A sophomore computer science major, Stefan originates from Tashkent, Uzbekistan and Phoenix, Arizona. He appeared in *Our Town*, Taylor's *A Man for All Seasons*, and is the leader of the Taylor Christian Artists acting group, "Undignified." Stefan enjoys playing video games with friends, and playing the mandolin and guitar, as well as the ukulele, violin, and banjo whenever he gets the chance. He also enjoys juggling, paint-balling, riding roller coasters, and playing Korean games.

**ANDY TROZAN - FILI**

Andy is a senior computer science-systems major from Fort Collins, Colorado. He performed in the Taylor play, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* as Ching Ho last semester. Andy enjoys reading, music, science, doing fun and crazy things like bursting into song and climbing things.

**RACHEL WOODS - DORI**

Junior elementary education major from Sturgis, Michigan, Rachel hopes to teach first grade after graduating from Taylor. In high school, she performed in *Our Town*, *Fools*, and *South Pacific* and at Taylor, *Flowers for Algernon*. Rachel is currently the P.A. on 3rd South English and just loves hanging out with family and friends, playing sports with her wing, getting coffee, and watching movies.

**RYAN DUNCAN - NORI**

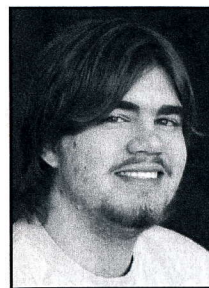
Batavia, Illinois, is home to Ryan. He is a sophomore English writing major who plans to become a fantasy writer and travel the world, as well as work with marine animals, after graduation. Taylor Theatre welcomes this as Ryan's first production. Ryan enjoys swimming, rollerblading, reading, hanging out with friends, and writing short stories.

**LYDIA KILMER - ORI**

Freshman psychology major from Kokomo, Indiana, Lydia was involved in her high school's productions of *April Morning* and *No Place to Flee*. At Taylor, her activities include orchestra, Adoration chorus, TCA's acting group Undignified, and Airband. Lydia enjoys reading with a mug of tea, playing piano and harp, and spending time with friends.

**EMILY REEL - OIN**

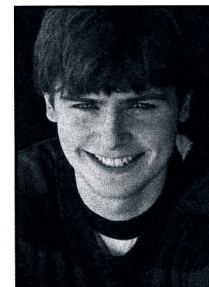
Emily is a first semester senior media communication-film emphasis major/theatre minor from Indianapolis, Indiana. She appeared in two plays, *Magic, Magic!* and *Annie*, in high school and in Taylor's one act production of *Two Rooms*. In her spare time, Emily enjoys reading, acting, filmmaking, scrap-booking, sports, going to Starbucks with friends, and spending time with family and friends. In the future she hopes to work at Disney Studios in Los Angeles, California.

**Stephen Hensel - Gloin**

Stephen is a sophomore English/writing/systems major from Grantham, Pennsylvania, has been in several plays such as *Les Miserables* in high school and *A Man for All Seasons* here at Taylor. His Taylor activities include TCA drama, lighting for theatre, intramurals, and making short films. Stephen also enjoys writing, reading, gaming, theology, and philosophy; and his vocational plan involves technology and missions in East Asia.

**ABIGAIL WOLFF - BIFUR**

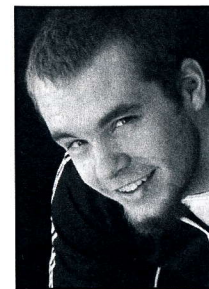
Abigail is a freshman theatre/psychology major from Easton, Connecticut, whose vocational plans include helping with a counseling program through theatre, earning a PhD in Psychology, and going to Africa. She has been involved in *Grease*, *Snow White*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and Taylor's *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Abigail's pastimes include horseback riding and any other outdoor sports,

**BRIAN FARNSLEY - BOFUR**

Brian is a freshman psychology major from Morristown, Indiana, and plans to be a counselor/minister in the future. He enjoys spending time with the guys on his floor, roller skating, being with people and super hero talks.

**RYAN MCKALIP - BOMBUR**

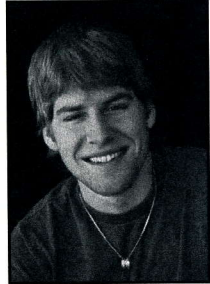
Ryan is a junior Biblical literature major from Spencer, Indiana, whose vocational plan is to be a member of the state police. He was involved with many plays in high school including *The Wizard of Oz*, *Oliver Twist*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, and *Lil' Abner*. Ryan enjoys painting models and miniatures.

**ANDREW GOEDICKE - THORIN**

Andrew is a sophomore art education major/theatre minor from Cincinnati, Ohio. His theatrical experience includes his role as Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in high school. He plans to become a high school art teacher in addition to being an artist himself. At Taylor, he has been involved as an orientation leader and in Airband. His favorite pastimes include relaxing, laughing, spending time with friends and family, working on art, climbing trees, and doing handstands.

**AMANDA TRUMBOWER - GROCERY BOY/ATTENDANT GOBLIN**

Amanda is a junior French/English education major from Madison, Wisconsin. Her activities at Taylor include working at the Dining Commons, Airband, and volunteering at the Red Barn, a local youth hangout. Amanda also enjoys reading, hanging out with friends, watching movies, and carrying on conversations in French.

**JARED SORENSEN - BERT/SMAUG**

Junior media communication-film emphasis major from Vernon, New Jersey, Jared plans to become a director and to tell his story and share the hope, grace, and love of God through the films in which he is involved. He performed in the Taylor production *The Chalk Garden* and continues to perform in *John, His Story*. Jared says, "I read like it's my job. My favorite book is *Ragamuffin Gospel* by Brennan Manning." He also loves swimming, writing and telling stories through film. After graduation, Jared plans to travel to Europe to explore canyons and then to South Africa to bungee jump off the tallest bridge in the world.

**BEN ANDERSON - TOM, ELVEN GUARD**

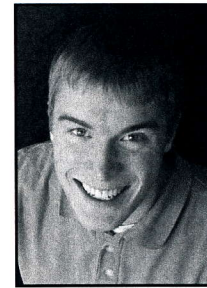
Ben is a sophomore English literature major from Lino Lakes, Minnesota, who plans to attend law school after graduation. Taylor Theatre welcomes Ben as this is his first production. Ben enjoys biking, swimming, skiing, camping, and just about anything that can be done outside.

**KATHY ST. CYR - ESSIE/ELVEN GUARD**

Kathy is a junior theatre arts major from Annapolis, Maryland. She was in several plays in high school. Her plays at Taylor include *Little Women*, *Night Watch*, *Chalk Garden*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Kathy enjoys journaling, spending time with friends and family, living on Second West Olson, small group leadership, being a part of Alpha Psi Omega-theatre honor society, singing, playing card games, and "practically living in the Mitchell Theatre."

**RUTH KELLER - THE GREAT GOBLIN**

Fort Wayne, Indiana, is home to Ruth. She is a freshman elementary education major who hopes to teach English to missionary kids or natives in Asia after graduation. Her past productions include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Cindy & the Godfather*, and *Mandate for Murder*. On campus, she is involved in MuKappa, working at the Dining Commons, and Airband. In her spare time, Ruth enjoys reading fiction, art, scrap-booking, ultimate Frisbee, singing, and spending time with friends.

**JONATHAN FRIDAY - GOLLUM**

Jonathan, a sophomore media communication major from Peoria, Illinois, last performed in Taylor's production of *The Chalk Garden*. Favorite high school roles include Professor Bhaer in *Little Women* and the King in *The King and I*. Other Taylor activities include BASSYCS, hall council, Airband, writing for ECRU, and co-hosting a weekly show on WTUR. His favorite pastime? Jonathan says, "wearing clothing that is *not* skintight!"

**KELSEY DUFENDACH - ELVEN QUEEN**

Kelsey, a senior media communication major from Ada, Michigan, has many vocational plans, such as video producer, singer, theater director and cosmetologist. Since coming to Taylor she has appeared in and/or worked with *Tom Sawyer*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Little Women* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Kelsey enjoys singing, making and watching movies, hanging with friends and family, scrap-booking, reading, playing games, being Miss Greater Grand Rapids 2007, dancing, a good conversation, Alpha Psi Omega, and mentoring.

**KAITLYN MILLNER - ELVEN ATTENDANT**

Kaitlyn is a freshman secondary education-math major from Mundelein, Illinois. She plans to be a high school math teacher and combine it with a minor in Spanish. She performed in many plays in high school, including *Into the Woods*, *Chicago*, and *Charley's Aunt*, and was the assistant stage manager for *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Kaitlyn loves singing, dancing, and helping with the Upland Community Church's high school youth group and MOPS.

**MELANIE BORONOW - ELVEN ATTENDANT**

Greenbay, Wisconsin, is home to Melanie. She is a freshman English writing major. This is her first Taylor play. Melanie enjoys writing, music, Spanish, going to exotic lands, chatting, drinking coffee, thrift shopping, poetry, peanut butter, toe socks, and staying up all night.

Welcome to Taylor University Theatre. If you are a regular supporter of our program we thank you for your encouraging participation over the years. If this is your first visit, we trust that you will enjoy our work enough to return - again and again and again. We have a distinct calling as a Christian liberal arts theatre program, reflected in our philosophical statement. We welcome your participation, your comments on our work, and any suggestions you might have to help us accomplish our mission.

Come Play with us. . .

Taylor University Theatre is a co-curricular educational program supporting the liberal arts mission of the University by providing a broad range of theatre experiences that span most theatrical periods, genres, and styles.

Plays that probe the human condition and reveal human action with integrity, authenticity, and a sense of "grace," provide us the opportunity to understand better what is true about ourselves and others.

While individual plays may not necessarily reflect the ethos of the Taylor community, we believe that this theatrical pursuit of truth resides at the heart of a Christian Liberal Arts education.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

SCENIC DESIGNER.....	*CORY RODEHEAVER
LIGHT DESIGNER.....	KEVIN GAWLEY
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR.....	*DAVID PHILLIPS
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR.....	*JOSH ZEHNDER
STAGE MANAGER.....	*LINDSAY SNIDER
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS.....	AMANDA HUDSON KELLY BARROW
DECK CREW.....	STEFAN WESSMAN JARED SORENSEN AMANDA TRUMBOWER JASON GRIFFIN ANN WILSON RYAN DUNCAN JONATHAN FRIDAY THOMAS NICOL RUTH KELLER DAVID POMEROY
CARPENTERS.....	BRAD GREENE MATT JOHNSON BRETT GRAHAM CHARLYNN KNIGHTON KAITLYN MILLNER ELENA FORSYTHE JORDAN COOK JESSE HAWKINS BREE HOMBERG
CHARGE SCENIC ARTIST.....	*KELSEY DUFENDACH VIVienne WATROUS ANDREW GOEDICKE JERUSHA FERBRACHE BRETT GRAHAM ANNE LEGALL JARED SORENSEN
MASTER ELECTRICIAN.....	MATTHEW JOHNSON STEPHEN HENSEL ELENA FORSYTHE THOMAS NICOL BRIANNA MAINE BRIAN FANNIN ADAM WOLKEN KAITLYN MILLNER JESSE HAWKINS
SOUND TECHNICIAN.....	KARI VANREENAN MIKE HENRY NEIL AESCHLIMAN
PROPERTIES MASTER.....	*KATHY ST. CYR ELISABETH DUNCAN SARA DUNCAN ELENA MANNING
MAKEUP/HAIR.....	EMILY LAMBERT *KELSEY DUFENDACH MARGAUX REEVES *KATHY ST. CYR CARLY TIMBIE ABIGAIL WOLFF DOROTHY KWOK ANDREW GOEDICKE
COSTUME SHOP SUPERVISOR.....	SARA BAILEY JARED SORENSEN JONATHAN FRIDAY PETER KUEHL LYDIA KILMER LAURA HUTSON FAITH BATZINGER VIVienne WATROUS VICTORIA KNIGHT RUTH KELLER BEN ANDERSON AMANDA TRUMBOWER NICKI REISHUS RACHEL DEMEO JESSE HAWKINS
HOUSE MANAGER.....	MATTHEW REICHERT ROBERT ANDERSON RACHEL WAHNEFRIED MONICA SWAIN JENNIE BINNION CHELSEA MECASKEY EMILY MANTING CHARLYN KNIGHTON MANDOLYN HECOX RACHEL JONKER NICKI REISHUS SARA H LU RACHEL DORNON MEAGHAN HAYNES LAURIE YARDUMIAN BEN ENGLAND MIA MATCHETT VANESSA JOHNS JULIE CODDINGTON CATHERINE BARNETT KIMBERLY RENEAU EMILY BENNETT JESSE HAWKINS RACHEL BROWN REBECCA CARHART CHRISTA KREHBIEL HEATHER MURPHY FAITH BATZINGER BECCA NICKEL ASHLEY HOFFMAN LOREN BRENNER CARA STRICKLAND CHRISTY SOPCISAK LIZ HERRMANN HEIDI BABSON KRISTEN LONG BETHANY REILLY KIM MOSELLE ERICA MEJIA DECEMBER PUGH MANDY ISAACSON

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